

Message Text

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21

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SAM-01

SCCT-02 M-02 AID-20 CCO-00 FBO-08 PM-07 H-03 L-03

NIC-01 NSC-07 SP-03 OC-06 OPR-02 PA-04 USSS-00 PRS-01

SCA-01 A-01 OMB-01 SS-20 SY-04 SCS-03 SSO-00 NSCE-00

DRC-01 /139 W

----- 116553

R 301640Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5242

INFO SECDEF

JCS

CINCUSAFE

CINCUSNAVUER

USNMR SHAPE

USDOCOSOUTH

USCINCEUR ECJ2-BS

CINCUSAFERU

AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, PFOR, GR, US

SUBJECT: ANTI-AMERICANISM

REF: ATHENS 6104

1. SUMMARY: SINCE LAST CABLE THIS SUBJECT AUGUST 27
(ATHENS 6104) TWO POVS BURNED, OTHERS DAMAGED BY ROCKS
AND TIRES SLASHED. LOCAL PRINTERS UNION REFUSED TO
PUBLISH U.S. AIR BASE BIWEEKLY NEWSPAPER. ANTI-AMERICAN
DEMONSTRATIONS REPORTEDLY TOOK PLACE ON CORFU AND ZAKINTHOS
ISLANDS IN IONIAN SEA AND BOYCOTT OF
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AMERICAN PRODUCTS WAS CALLED FOR BY SOCIALIST YOUTH.

FIRST INSTANCE OF ASSAULT OCCURRED AUGUST 29 WHEN GREEK MALE YOUTH PUNCHED AND KICKED TWO AMERICAN TEENAGE GIRLS NEAR JUSMAGG THEATER. EMBASSY PROMPTLY LODGED COMPLAINT WITH GREEK MFA. END SUMMARY.

2. INCIDENTS INVOLVING DAMAGE TO AUTOMOBILES OWNED BY U.S. SERVICEMEN OR OTHER USG PERSONNEL AND USUALLY OF AMERICAN MANUFACTURE CONTINUE TO OCCUR. ONE CAR BELONGING TO USN PETTY OFFICER WAS BURNED AUGUST 27 CAUSING MAJOR DAMAGE, ANOTHER BELONGING TO GREEK-AMERICAN FILM PRODUCER BURNED AUGUST 29, TIRES WERE SLASHED ON SEVERAL OTHER POVS AND ROCKS WERE HURLED THROUGH REAR WINDSHIELD OF ANOTHER CAR. CAR WAS HIT BY ROCKS THROWN BY LOCAL PRINTING SHOP EMPLOYEE AFTER SHOP REFUSED FOR FIRST TIME TO PRINT U.S. AIR BASE BI-WEEKLY NEWSPAPER. DRIVER SWORE OUT WARRANT AGAINST EMPLOYEE DESPITE POLICE SUGGESTION THAT SUCH ACTION MIGHT CREATE ADVERSE PUBLICITY.

3. TWO RECENT ANTI-AMERICAN DEMONSTRATIONS WERE REPORTED IN ATHENS PRESS. BOTH TOOK PLACE ON IONIAN ISLANDS--CORFU AND ZAKINTHOS WHERE U.S. PRESENCE IS MINOR EXCEPT FOR REMAINING TOURISTS BUT WHERE ORGANIZED LEFTIST MOVEMENTS WERE SIGNIFICANT BEFORE 1967 COUP. YOUTH SECTION OF GREEK SOCIALIST PARTY CALLED FOR BOYCOTT OF AMERICAN PRODUCTS TO PROTEST U.S. POLICY DURING CYPRUS CRISIS AND U.S. SUPPORT FOR JUNTA DURING LAST SEVEN YEARS.

4. PAO WAS TOLD BY DEPUTY MINISTER OF CULTURE WHO TURNED DOWN SEVERAL REQUESTS FOR APPOINTMENT THAT ANTI-U.S. FEELING WAS RUNNING TOO HIGH WITH MINISTRY EMPLOYEES FOR U.S. EMBASSY OFFICER TO BE RECEIVED IN OFFICE. HE SUGGESTED MEETING PAO AT SOCIAL GATHERING. DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL RADIO/TV NETWORK (EIRT) DIMITRIOS HORN INFORMED PUBLIC AFFAIRS COUNSELOR THAT EIRT IS RECEIVING NUMEROUS ABUSIVE LETTERS PROTESTING EIRT'S PROGRAMMING OF AMERICAN TV FILMS.

5. FIRST INSTANCE OF BODILY ASSULT TOOK PLACE AUGUST 29 AT 10:30 P.M. ON WELL-LIGHTED KIFISSIA (ATHENS SUBURB) STREET WHEN CAR WITH GREEK YOUTHS FOLLOWED TWO AMERICAN TEENAGE GIRLS WHO WERE RETURNING HOME FROM JUSMAGG LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THEATER. AFTER QUESTIONING SEVERAL TIMES IF GIRLS WERE AMERICANS AND GIRLS FINALLY CONFIRMED, DRIVER STOPPED CAR AND BEGAN TO PUNCH AND KICK GIRLS, WHO SUFFERED BRUISES AND SCRATCHES BUT DID NOT REQUIRE HOSPITALIZATION. GREEKS NEARBY DID NOT RESPOND TO GIRLS' CALLS FOR HELP. AFTER OTHER OCCUPANTS OF CAR RESTRAINED DRIVE LATTER RETURNED TO CAR AND DROVE AWAY, BUT NOT BEFORE ONE GIRL TOOK DOWN LICENSE PLATE NUMBER. COMPLAINT HAS BEEN

FORMALLY LODGED WITH LOCAL POLICE WHO ARE INVESTIGATING.
DCM ALSO REGISTERED COMPLAINT WITH GREEK FOREIGN MINISTRY.
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Message Attributes

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